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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/613,660	07/02/2003	Karine Excoffier	SUN-P7528	7256
32615	7590	09/20/2006	EXAMINER	
OSHA LIANG L.L.P./SUN 1221 MCKINNEY, SUITE 2800 HOUSTON, TX 77010			LY, CHEYNE D	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2168	

DATE MAILED: 09/20/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/613,660

Applicant(s)

EXCOFFIER ET AL.

Examiner

Cheyne D. Ly

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 August 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6,9-21,24-36 and 39-45 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6,9-21,24-36 and 39-45 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 9/14/2006
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicants' arguments filed August 28, 2006 have been fully considered but they are deemed to be persuasive.
2. The foreign priority document has been acknowledged.
3. Applicant's request for reconsideration of the finality of the rejection of the last Office action is persuasive and, therefore, the finality of that action is withdrawn.
4. Claims 1-6, 9-21, 24-36, and 39-45 are examined on the merits.
5. NON-FINAL.

INTERVIEW SUMMARY

6. On September 13 and 14, 2006, Examiner telephoned applicant to suggest an Examiner's amendment to allow the instant Application. Examiner and Applicant have gone through four iterations of proposed amendments. However, no agreement has been reached; therefore, the proposed amendment presented to Examiner by email as authorized by Applicant will not be entered.

CLAIM REJECTIONS - 35 USC § 101

7. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.
8. Claims 1-6, 9-21, 24-36, and 39-45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory type subject matter.
9. Claims 1-6, 9-21, 24-36, and 39-45 are rejected because the claimed method, directory server system, and computer readable medium do not result in any a physical transformation, produce any tangible, concrete, and useful results. For example, claim 1 recites

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“associating”, “adding”, and “attaching” wherein no tangible, concrete, and useful final result is generated by the claimed invention. As evidenced by claim 11, the method occasionally generate a result when a specific condition met and not results are generated when said condition is not met. Therefore, the claims are directed nonstatutory embodiments wherein no tangible, concrete, and useful final result is generated by the claimed invention.

10. Specific to the directory server system of claims 16-21 and 24-30, the claimed invention is nonstatutory because all of the elements would reasonably be interpreted by one of ordinary skill in light of the disclosure as software. Computer software, descriptive material, is nonstatutory when claimed as descriptive material per se.

11. Specific to claims 31-36 and 39-45, the claimed invention is directed to a computer readable medium wherein said medium embodies “a transmission medium such as digital or analog signal.” The claimed invention is nonstatutory because “a transmission medium such as digital or analog signal” is not a suitable medium as defined by 35 USC 101.

CONCLUSION

12. The instant claims are free of any prior art; therefore, said claims would be allowable, if the above rejection is overcome.

13. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

- a. Yialelis et al. (1996) discloses “[s]ubject scope can delegate to objects in the Grantee scope the right to perform operations, specified in Operations field, on objects in the Target scope” (page 81, column 2).


- b. Lupu et al. (1997) discloses "extending the user's permissions to a new object can be done by extending the target scope of a policy to a new object" (page 136, column 2).

- 14. Patent applicants with problems or questions regarding electronic images that can be viewed in the Patent Application Information Retrieval system (PAIR) can now contact the USPTO's Patent Electronic Business Center (Patent EBC) for assistance. Representatives are available to answer your questions daily from 6 am to midnight (EST). The toll free number is (866) 217-9197. When calling please have your application serial or patent number, the type of document you are having an image problem with, the number of pages and the specific nature of the problem. The Patent Electronic Business Center will notify applicants of the resolution of the problem within 5-7 business days. Applicants can also check PAIR to confirm that the problem has been corrected. The USPTO's Patent Electronic Business Center is a complete service center supporting all patent business on the Internet. The USPTO's PAIR system provides Internet-based access to patent application status and history information. It also enables applicants to view the scanned images of their own application file folder(s) as well as general patent information available to the public.
- 15. For all other customer support, please call the USPTO Call Center (UCC) at 800-786-9199. The USPTO's official fax number is 571-272-8300.

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16. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to C. Dune Ly, whose telephone number is (571) 272-0716. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8 A.M. to 4 P.M.
17. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tim Vo, can be reached on (571) 272-3642.

C. Dune Ly / *am*
Patent Examiner
9/15/06



DEBBIE LE
PRIMARY EXAMINER
9/15/06